A8912-1

SEG news release

Society of Exploration Geophysicists

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

November 11, 1985

Contact: David L. Yowell
or Sally Shank
(918) 493-3516

MONTHLY SEISMIC CREW COUNT

(Month of October, 1985)

The number of seismic land crews and marine vessels searching for oil and gas in the U.S. and U.S. waters during October decreased by fifteen from the September total. The land crew total decreased by eleven crews and the marine crew total decreased by four, for a net decrease of fifteen.

The October total (357) represents a decrease of 4% from last month, a 28% decrease from October, 1984, a 28% decrease from October, 1983, a 31% decrease from October, 1982, a 52% decrease from October, 1981, a 37% decrease from October, 1980, and a decrease of 18% from the same month in 1979.

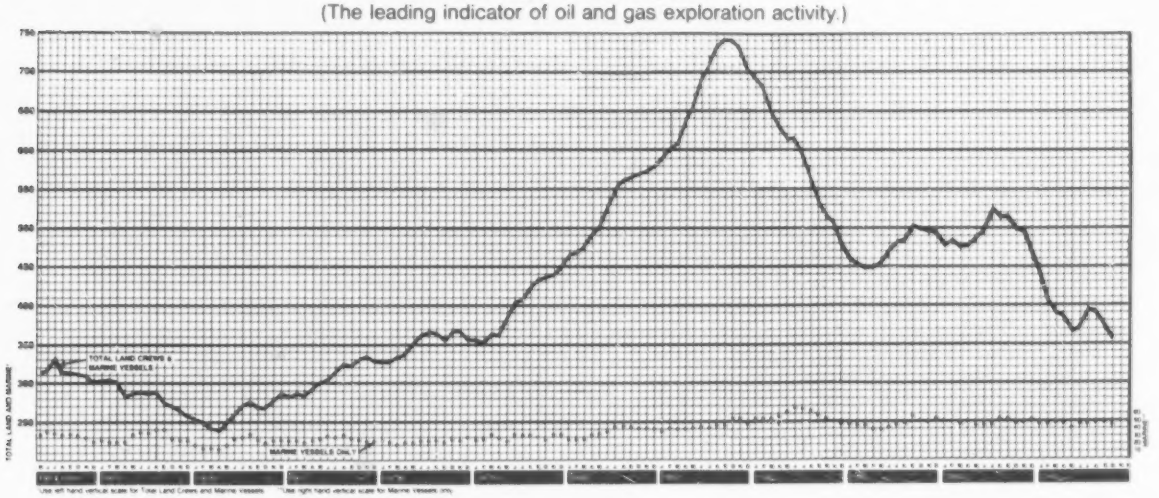
During October, eleven contractors were operating fourteen of the 279 land crews and five of the thirty-eight vessels on a speculative basis.

TOTAL LAND & MARINE CREWS:	This Month	Last Month	Oct.'84	Oct.'83	Oct.'82	Oct.'81	Oct.'80	Oct.'79
	357	372	497	498	516	741	571	436

	LAND CREWS								MARINE VESSELS							
	This Mo.	Last Mo.	Oct. 1984	Oct. 1983	Oct. 1982	Oct. 1981	Oct. 1980	Oct. 1979	This Mo.	Last Mo.	Oct. 1984	Oct. 1983	Oct. 1982	Oct. 1981	Oct. 1980	Oct. 1979
69 Contr's:	279	290	412	410	423	646	490	368	38	43	42	42	42	44	33	24
9 Oil Co's:	33	33	37	38	42	43	40	39	7	6	6	7	8	7	7	4
1 Gov't.:	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	1	1
Totals	312	323	449	448	465	689	530	407	45	49	48	50	51	52	41	29

SEISMIC CREW COUNT

(The leading indicator of oil and gas exploration activity.)



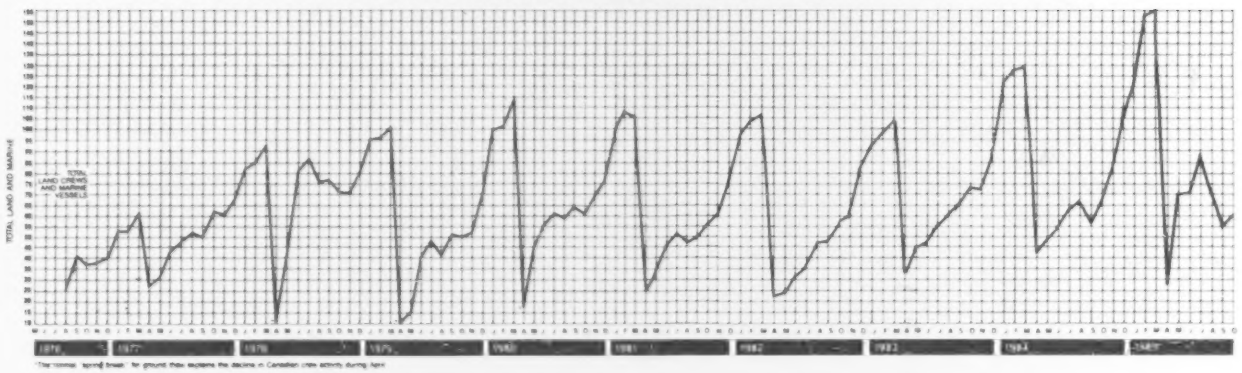
*Results of SEG's Seismic Crew Count of land and marine vessels engaged in exploration for oil and gas in the USA and USA waters, including Alaska, for the month indicated. These figures are compiled from data reported by oil companies operating company-owned seismic exploration crews and vessels and by contract seismic exploration companies. Special significance is attached to seismic crew activity since it is recognized as the leading indicator of all petroleum exploration activity.

CANADIAN SEISMIC CREW COUNT

OCTOBER, 1985 (September figures in parentheses)

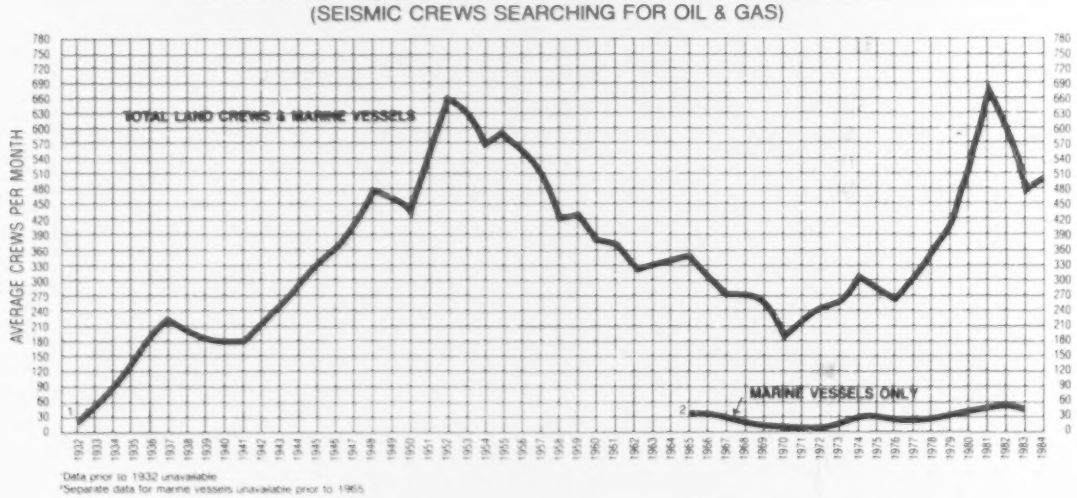
	Land Crews	Marine Vessels
26 Contractors:	54 (46)	2 (5)
2 Oil Companies:	5 (3)	0 (0)
Totals:	59 (49)	2 (5)

CANADIAN SEISMIC CREW COUNT
(The leading indicator of oil and gas exploration activity.)



SEG's monthly USA Seismic Crew survey was organized in 1974 at the request of the United States' Federal Energy Administration. The report is currently submitted to the U.S. Department of Energy. Both the U.S. and the international surveys are financed in part by a grant from the International Association of Geophysical Contractors.

HISTORY OF SEISMIC EXPLORATION IN THE UNITED STATES
(SEISMIC CREWS SEARCHING FOR OIL & GAS)



[1]Data prior to 1932 unavailable
[2]Separate data for marine vessels unavailable prior to 1965